applying an oscillating compressive force to a chest of the patient to cause displacement of the chest cavity volume, the oscillating force including a steady state force component and an oscillating force component; and

supplying air pressure to a mouth of a patient with an oscillating air pressure component and with a steady state air pressure component which is in a direction and which has a magnitude which tends to make the oscillating compressive force effective throughout each entire cycle.

15. A method for removal of mucus from a lung of a patient, the method comprising:

applying an oscillating compressive force to a chest of the patient;

supplying air pressure to a mouthpiece positioned in a mouth of the patient; and

coordinating the compressive force and the air pressure supplied to the mouthpiece to make the oscillating compressive force effective throughout each entire cycle to induce mucus movement.

Add B4

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 17, 2001 in which the Examiner noted that the application contains claims directed to two distinct inventions.

With this Response, the Applicant elects the claims of Group I with traverse. The claims readable on Group I include claims 1-8. In addition, Applicant has added claims 11-15, which are directed toward the method of the invention and should be included with Group I.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.

Date: 8/17/01

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## APPENDIX:
## MARKED UP VERSION OF SPECIFICATION AND CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.(Amended) A chest wall oscillation method comprising:

applying an oscillating compressive force to a [patient's] chest <u>of a patient</u> which includes a steady state force component and an oscillating force component; and

supplying air pressure to a mouthpiece in communication with [the patient's] <u>a</u> mouth <u>of the patient</u> with an oscillating air pressure component and with a steady state air pressure component which is in a direction and which has a magnitude which tends to counteract the steady state force component of the oscillating compressive force.



4.(Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein air pressure is supplied to the air supply port of the mouthpiece to maintain a net [average] flow of air to the air supply port and out of the outlet port.

5.(Amended) A chest wall oscillation method comprising:

applying an oscillating compressive force to a [patient's] chest <u>of a patient</u> which includes a steady state force component and an oscillating force component; and

supplying air pressure to a mouthpiece in communication with <u>a</u> [the patient's] mouth <u>of the patient</u> to at least partially cancel the steady state force component and provide an oscillating air pressure component.

8.(Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein air pressure is supplied to the air supply port of the mouthpiece to maintain a net [average] flow of air to the air supply port and out of the outlet port.

9.(Amended) A chest wall oscillation system comprising:

a chest wall force applicator for applying to a [patient's] chest <u>of a patient</u> an oscillating compressive force having a steady state force component and an oscillatory force component;

a mouthpiece having a mouth port for positioning in communication with <u>a</u> [the patient's] mouth <u>of the patient</u>, an outlet port and an air supply port;

an air pressure supply connected to the air supply port; and

a control system which coordinates operation of the chest wall force applicator and the air supply so that the air supply provides air to the air supply port according to an air pressure waveform having a time-varying pressure component and having a steady state pressure component which at least partially cancels the steady state force component.

10.(Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein air is supplied to the air supply port of the mouthpiece to maintain a net [average] flow of air to the air supply port and out of the outlet port.